astomer No. 26308

PATENT

Group Art Unit: 3738

Examiner: Isabella, David J.

IFW\$

Docket No. <u>9448.17205-CIP DIV 8</u>

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

المنتقبة re application of:

Reiley

Serial No:

10/657,844

Filed:

9 September 2003

For:

Facet Arthroplasty Devices and Methods

Mail Stop Amendment Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 26308

PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

TRANSMITTAL OF INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BEFORE MAILING DATE OF EITHER A FINAL ACTION OR NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE (37 CFR 1.97(c))

NOTE: "An information disclosure statement shall be considered by the Office if filed ... before the mailing date of either (1) a final action under S 1.113 or (2) a notice of allowance under S 1.311, whichever occurs first, provided the statement is accompanied by either a certification as specified in paragraph (e) of this section or the fee set forth in S 1.17(p)." 37 CFR 1.97(c).

NOTE: "If a final action or notice of allowance is mailed in an application and later withdrawn, the application will be considered as not having had a final action or notice of allowance mailed for purposes of considering an information disclosure statement." Notice of April 20, 1992 (1138 O.G. 37-41, 39).

NOTE: "If information submitted during the period set forth in 37 CFR 1.97(c) with a certification is used in a new ground of rejection on unamended claims, the next Office action will not be made final since in this situation it is clear that applicant has submitted the information to the office promptly after it has become known and the information is being submitted prior to a final determination on patentability by the Office. However, the information submitted with a certification can be used in a new ground of rejection and the next Office action made final, [i]f the new ground of rejection was necessitated by amendment of the application by applicant. Where the information is submitted during this period with a fee, the examiner may use the information submitted, e.g., printed publication or evidence of public use, and make the next Office action final whether or not the claims have been amended, provided that no other new ground of rejection which was not necessitated by amendment to the claims is introduced by the examiner. See MPEP 706.07(a). If a new ground of rejection is introduced that is neither necessitated by an amendment to the claims nor based on the information submitted with the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(p), the Office action shall not be made final." Notice of April 20, 1992

(1138 O.G. 37-41, 39).

WARNING: "A PETITION FOR SUSPENSION OF ACTION TO ALLOW APPLICANT TIME TO SUBMIT AN INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT WILL BE DENIED AS FAILING TO PRESENT GOOD AND SUFFICIENT REASONS, SINCE 37 CFR 1.97 PROVIDES ADEQUATE RECOURSE FOR THE TIMELY SUBMISSION OF PRIOR ART FOR CONSIDERATION BY THE EXAMINER." NOTICE OF JULY 6, 1992 (1141 O.G. 63).

TIME OF TRANSMITTAL OF ACCOMPANYING INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

- 1. The information disclosure statement transmitted herewith is being filed AFTER THREE MONTHS OF THE FILING DATE OF THIS NATIONAL APPLICATION OR THE DATE OF ENTRY OF THE NATIONAL STAGE AS SET FORTH IN S 1.491 IN AN INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION OR AFTER THE MAILING DATE OF THE FIRST OFFICE ACTION ON THE MERITS, WHICHEVER EVENT OCCURRED LAST BUT BEFORE THE MAILING DATE OF EITHER:
 - (1) a final action under § 1.113 or
 - (2) a notice of allowance under § 1.311, whichever occurs first.

	CERTIFIC	ATE OF MAILING (37 CFR 1.8a)
	I hereby certify that this correspondence is being depo	sited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail, with sufficien
	postage, in an envelope addressed as follows: Mail Stop 1450, on <u>1 November 2004</u>	o Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, PO Box 1450, Afe) andria, VA 22313
1/05/2004	DEMMANU1 00000033 10657844	Signature of Person Signing
1 FC:1806	180.00 OP	Linda S. Wenzel
		Type or Print Name of Person Signing

CERTIFICATION OR FEE

2. Accom	Accompanying this transmittal is (check either A or B below)					
A.	(check en	ed in 37 CFR 1.97(e)				
В.	[x] the fee set forth in 37 CF ment under S 1.97(c). (\$	OR R 1.17(p) for submission of an information disclosure state 180.00).				
	· —	E PAYMENT is item, if applicable)				
	ant elects the option to pay the feesure statement under S 1.97(c) (\$2	set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(p) for submission of an information 80.00).				
	Fee due	\$ 180.00				
	METHOD O	PAYMENT OF FEE				
4. [x]	Attached is check in the amount	of \$ <u>180.00</u>				
[]	Charge Account No in the A duplicate of this request is atta					
prior art again patentability as would be appro	st the claims of the present apples defined in 37 CFR §1.56(b). Apprinte to antedate or otherwise re	intended as an admission that such document constitutes ication or that such document is considered material to blicant does not waive any rights to take any action which emove as a competent reference any document which is against the claims of the present application.				
If any additiona	al fees are due, please charge Acc	ount No. <u>06-2360</u> .				
Reg. No. 50,2	95	Patricia a Kimbach				
Telephone No.	.: (262) 783 - 1300	Signature of Attorney Patricia A. Limbach				
Customer No.	26308	Type or Print Name of Attorney of Record RYAN KROMHOLZ & MANION, S.C. Post Office Box 26618 Milwaykon, Wisconsin, 53226,0618				
		Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53226-0618 Mailing Address of Sender				

CLIST OF PRIOR ART CITED BY APPLICANT	ATTY DOCKET NO. SERIAL NO. 9448.17205-CIP DIV 8 10/657,844		
(Use several sheets if necessary)	APPLICANT Reiley		
Cu st omer No. 26308	FILING DATE 9 September 2003	GROUP 3738	

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initial	DOCUMENT NUMBER	Date	Name	Class	Subclass	Filing Date (If Appropriate)

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	Class	Subclass	Translation Yes No
	WO 96/00049	01/1996	PCT (English abstract)			

OTHER PRIOR ART (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
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EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this of with next communication to applicant.